infrastructure of the various Departments involved in fiscal administration (Revenue Earning Departments, Treasuries and Accounts Department) being administered by Ministry of Finance-

Development Reserve Fund for State-Level Reforms

*170. SHRI NANA DESHMUKH: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to appoint an apex body to monitor the proposed Development Reserve Fund for State-Level Reforms in backward areas as a part of second generation reforms;

(b) if so, the areas which have since been identified for such projects; and

(c) the members of the proposed apex monitoring body?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE): (a) Yes, Sir. A High Level Committee has been constituted on 19.7.2002 for the Development and Reform Facility (Rashtriya Sam Vikas Yojana) which is a new initiative introduced in the current years.

(b) Matter is still under consideration.

(c) Deputy Chairman, Planning Commission is the Chairman of the Committee. The Members of the Committee include Finance Minister, Minister of State for Planning, Chief Ministers of Bihar and Orissa, Members, Planning Commission and Secretary, Planning Commission as Member-Secretary.

Income of States

*171. SHRI K. KALAVENKATA RAO;
SHRI K. RAMA MOHANA RAO:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the States that had income below the national average income in urban areas that has come down in the year 2000 in comparison to last ana decade;

(b) the reasons analysed for the downfall; and

(c) the remedial steps being taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE): (a) The available statistics on National Income, as estimated by the CSO provide National income for urban areas at current prices for .three points of time namely, for the year 1970-71,1980-81 and 1993-94. No data are available for the post 1993-94 period.

As regards State-Level Income, the Directorates of Economics and Statistics of various State Governments are responsible for estimating the State-level aggregate income in terms of Gross State Domestic Product (GSDP), Net State Domestic Product (NSDP). Distribution of GSDP and NSDP across urban and rural areas is not made by any government agency. Hence, no comparison can be made of the State-level urban income with that of national average.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Internet facilities at rural post offices in Bihar

†*172. SHRIMATI KUM KUM RAI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATION AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) the number of post offices in rural areas of Bihar which have e-mail, Internet and Computer facilities; and

(b) whether Government propose to provide the above facilities in all important post offices of rural areas in the State within a fixed time-limit?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN): (a) At present, e-mail, Internet and Computer facilities are not available in rural post offices in Bihar.

(b) Keeping in view the resources available and the need for optimal utilization of the computers, every effort is being made to expand the above facilities in all important post offices of rural areas in the State.

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.